

JOURNAL

of the

THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE

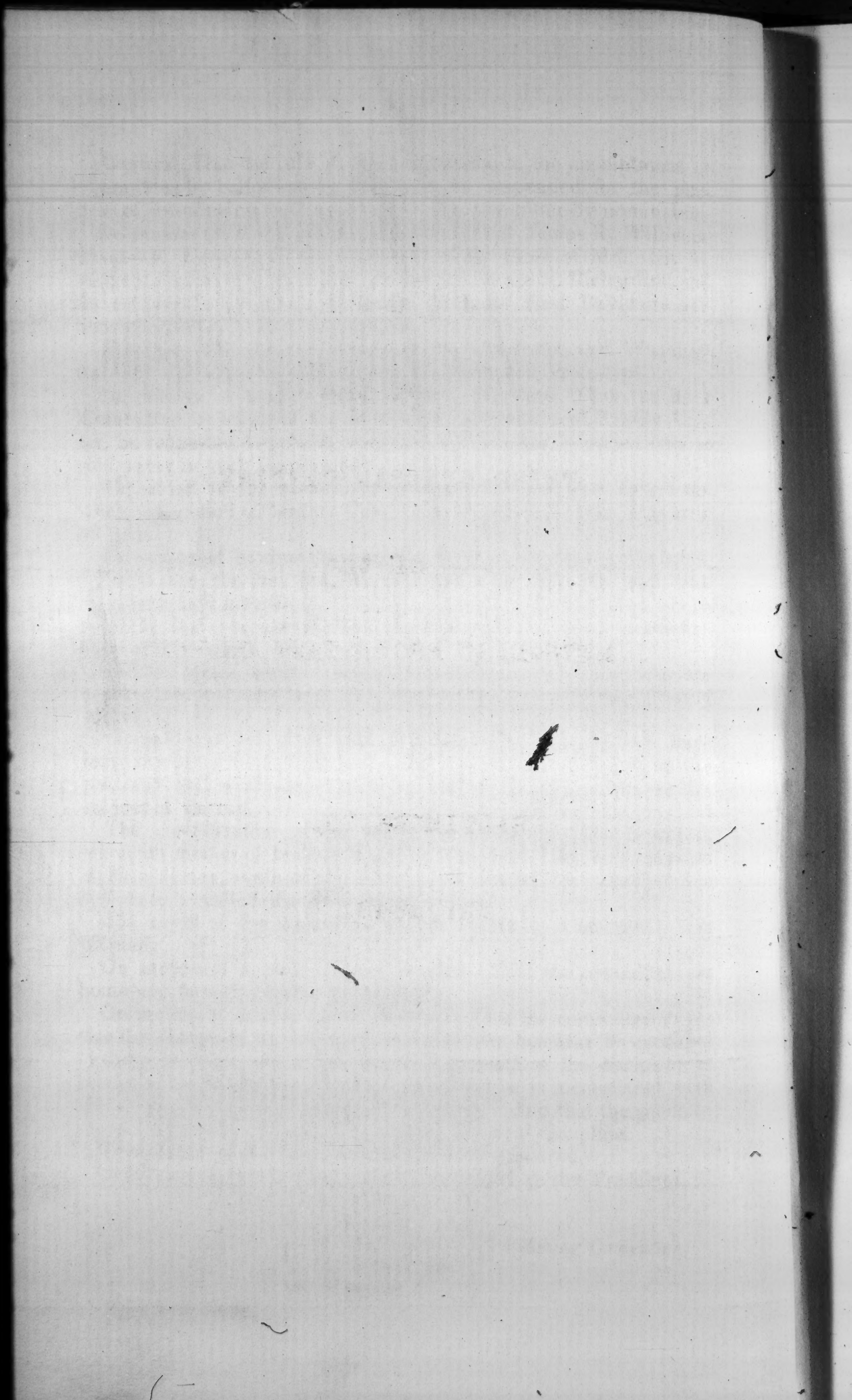
of the

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

held in

BALTIMORE, MD.

MAY, 1842.



For the Methodist Protestant and Family Visitor.

MINUTES OF THE THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH, HELD IN BALTIMORE, Md., May 3, 1842.

The Third General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church met this day in St. John's Church, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Rev. A. Shinn, was appointed President, *pro tem.*, and John J. Reed, Secretary, *pro tem.*

After reading the 4th chapter of Ephesians and prayer by Bro. Shinn, the Conference proceeded to business.

Resolved, That a Committee of three on Elections and Privileges be appointed.—Bros. Springer, Stier and Hicklin, were appointed said Committee.

The Committee reported the following named brethren as members of this General Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES ELECT.

Pittsburg.

Ministers.

A. Shinn,
*C. Avery,
John Burns,
*H. Heberline,
Geo. Brown,
Z. Ragan,
J. Clarke, Jr.,
*J. Herbert,
C. Springer,
*Geo. Hughes,

Laymen.

Thos. Freeman,
John Souder,
*J. W. Philips,
*H. Springer,
*Dr. M. Adams,
P. Lewis,
Jas. Clarke,
*Edw. Stevens,
*J. S. Barnes,
*W. S. Thorn.

Ohio.

A. H. Bassett,
*Robert Dobbins,
*David Crall,

D. C. Carson,
J. Whetstone,
*J. Foster.

Illinois.

W. H. Collins,

*O. W. Kellogg.

Mississippi.

Samuel Butler,

*James Wade.

New York.

Thos. K. Winsil,

John J. Reed,

Enoch Jacobs,

*J. D. Frambers.

Virginia.

J. G. Whitfield,

H. B. Woodhouse.

Indiana.

Dr. H. P. Bennett,

Wm. Smith,

Thos. Hicklin,

Jno. Burton.

Tennessee.

*B. H. Ragsdale,

*Dr. J. L. Armstrong.

N. Carolina.

A. Allbright, W. C. Whitaker,
*John F. Speight, R. C. Rankin.

Boston.

Thos. F. Norris, *J. K. Dunham.

Maryland.

Dr. F. Waters, Wm. S. Stockton,

Aug. Webster, A. S. Naudain,

Dr. Jno. S. Reese, Peter Light,

F. Stier, E. Crutchley,

J. R. Williams, J. B. Thomas,

W. C. Lipscomb, A. Waugh,

W. H. Bordley, Wm. Rusk.

S. Carolina.

A. McCaine, *Wm. Kirkwood.

Alabama.

P. S. Graves, B. S. Bibb,

*O. L. Nash, *B. Little.

Champlain.

*N. Crary, Jr., *E. Angel.

Pennsylvania.

John Smith, J. Van Camp.

Vermont.

*Geo. Smith, Lewis J. Fish.

Genessee.

A. Pennell, Thos. Barkley.

Georgia.

*Chas. Evans, *John Bass.

Onandaga.

O. E. Bryant, L. B. Morris.

Arkansas.

*No. 10.

Whole number, 80.

*Those marked with a star were not in attendance.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the bar of this Conference be within the two side aisles to the second post.

On motion, *Resolved*, That there be a Committee on *Rules of Order* for the government of this Conference. Bros. Webster, Springer and Pennell, were appointed said Committee.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be chosen to assist the pastors of the two Baltimore Stations in supplying the pulpits during the sitting of Conference. The Committee consisted of Bros. Witsil, Stier and Rusk.

The Committee on Rules of Order, re-

none elect-
ed

ported the rules of the General Conference of 1838 for adoption.

On motion, Resolved, That the Report of the Committee be amended by inserting the following additional rules, viz.:

Rule 20th. Every member within the bar shall vote on all questions, except excused by the Conference for special reasons.

Rule 21st. All reports of Committees when read by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be regarded as the property of the house, and subject to their action.

Moved, That the President shall not vote except in case of a tie; if, however, his vote in any case would cause a tie, he shall vote, and the question shall be decided in the negative. By order, laid on the table.

Resolved, That the Report of the Committee as amended, be adopted as our rules of order.

Adjourned with prayer by Bro. Bassett.

Tuesday Afternoon.

Conference opened by reading the Scriptures. Prayer by Bro. Heekin. Roll called, and 23 brethren answered to their names.

On motion of Bro. Butler, Resolved, That the Methodist Protestant Annual Conference of the Mississippi District be recognized as an Annual Conference of this community.

On motion of Bro. Ragan, Resolved, That this General Conference sanction the mutual action of the Ohio and the Illinois Annual Conference in setting off the Indiana District, and that we recognize the Indiana Annual Conference as a member of the General Conference.

A letter from the Genessee District was received.

Resolved, That the Chair examine the contents of said letter before its presentation.

After reading, the Chair gave a synopsis of the communication, and it was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Bros. Springer, Brown and Stockton.

On motion of Bro. Naudain, *Resolved*, That a Committee on Annual Conference Boundaries in the several Districts be appointed.

Moved, by Bro. Springer, That the above-named Committee consist of one member from each represented District, to be appointed by nomination and election. *Committee*—Bros. Witsil, N. York and N. Jersey District; Ragan, Pittsburg; Hicklin, Indiana; Webster, Maryland; Albright, N. Carolina; Bibb, Alabama; Norris, Massachusetts; Pennell, Genessee; Butler, Mississippi; Bassett, Ohio; and John Smith, Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That an assistant Secretary, *pro tem.*, be appointed. Bro. Bassett was elected.

On motion of Bro. Norris, *Resolved*, That a Literary Committee be appointed, to consist of five.

On motion of Bro. Springer, *Resolved*. That a Judiciary Committee, to consist of five, be appointed.

On motion of Bro. Stockton, *Resolved*, That a Committee of three, on Means of Grace, be appointed.

On motion of Bro. Springer, *Resolved*, That an Executive Committee of five, be appointed.

On motion of Bro. Stockton, *Resolved*, That a Committee of three, on Missions, be appointed.

By the same, *Resolved*, That a Committee of three, on Finance, be appointed.

On motion of Bro. Jacobs, *Resolved*, That a Committee of five, on Memorials, be appointed.

On motion of Bro. Stockton, *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to examine the Journals of the Annual Conferences.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Stier.

Wednesday Morning, May 4.

Conference opened with reading the Scriptures and prayer by Bro. Allbright. Journal of yesterday read and approved. Roll called, and 24 brethren answered to their names.

Moved by Bro. Webster, That the South Carolina District be recognized by this General Conference as an Annual Conference of this community.

On motion of Bro. Springer, *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire into the legality of the organization of the S. Carolina Annual Conference, and report the result of their inquiry. *Committee*—Bros. Bassett, Witsil and Allbright.

The Committee to whom was referred the letter from Bro. Eden Foster, from Genessee Conference, reported as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the letter from E. Foster, relating to the creation of the Onandagua Conference, report, That the Genessee Annual Conference passed a resolution, that it was expedient to divide the District, and took measures to accomplish that object. The consent of the Champlain Conference was obtained to the division; that while this decision was in progress, the Genessee Conference made a term with the Onandagua division that they should pay their portion of a debt due from the steward to the Book Company, before they would consent to the separate existence. This term not being complied with, objections are made to the representatives from Onandagua Conference being recognized as legal members of this General Conference.

"Upon a view of the facts in the case, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

"1. That the representatives be recognized as members of this Conference.

"2. That we consider the Onandagua Conference under moral obligations to pay their portion of this debt due to the Book Company of the Methodist Protestant Church, for which the Steward of the Genessee Conference is held responsible.

"C. SPRINGER, Chair'n.


"May 4th, 1842."

On motion of Bro. Springer, *Resolved*,
That this Report be laid on the table.

Moved, by Bro. Barkley, That the Re-
port be recommitted. *Lost*.

On motion of Bro. Stier, *Resolved*, That
the Onondaga Annual Conference be re-
cognized as a member of this community.

Resolved, That the Report of the Commi-



tee, as amended, being hereby adopted.

On motion of Bro. Springer, *Resolved*, That the question in Bro. Foster's letter respecting Boundaries, be referred to the Committee on Boundaries, and that respecting Books to the Literary Committee.

On motion of Bro. Stier, *Resolved*, That it be the order of the day, for to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock, to go into the election of President and Secretaries.

Bro Bryant, from Onandagua Conference, was added to the Committee on Boundaries.

Committee on Journals—Bros. John Smith, Witsil and Bibb.

Literary Committee—Bros. Norris, Springer, Webster, Reed and Ragan.

Executive Committee—Bros. Brown, Collins, Stier, Soud and Rusk.

Committee on Matters of Grace—Bros. Lockton, Burns and Graves.

Committee on Materials—Bros. Jacobs,

Bibb, Freeman, Whit-
aker, Hicklin.

Missionary Committee—
Bros. Reese, Witsel, Burns.

Financial Committee—Bros. Graves, Crutchley and Freeman.

Committee on the Judiciary—Bros. Springer, Waters, Williams, Carson and McCaine.
Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Smith.

Wednesday Afternoon.

Conference opened with reading the Scriptures and prayer by Bro. Norris. On calling the Roll, 28 brethren answered to their names.

Bro. Witsil, Chairman of the Special Committee on the S. Carolina Conference, presented the Report of the Committee:

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the case of the S. C. Annual Conference, respectfully report, That in their opinion the act of the Georgia Conference in setting off the State of South Carolina, has not the sanction of law, they not having obtained the consent of another Annual Conference; but that they discover no illegality in the organization of the S. C. Annual Conference, and that therefore the charge of illegality rests

upon the Georgia Annual Conference, and not upon the S. C. Annual Conference.

"In view of which facts, your Committee recommend, that the S. C. Annual Conference be recognized by the General Conference, and that the whole of this report be published, with the recommendation. Signed,

"T. K. WITSIL, Chair. Com."

Bro. Webster moved, That this Report be adopted. *Carried.*

Bro. Springer moved, That it be laid on the table. *Carried.*

Moved by Bro. Stockton, That the S. C. Annual Conference be recognized as an Annual Conference of this denomination, and that the names of the representatives be entered on the Minutes of this Conference. *Carried.*

On motion of Bro. Williams, *Resolved* That every Annual Conference which shall have been organized during the interval of the General Conference, shall report the facts, in writing, of said organization, and the proofs or evidences thereof, to the succeeding General Conference.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Bro. McCaine, from the S. C. Conference, be added to the Committee on Boundaries.

By his own request Bro. Webster was excused from the Committee on Boundaries, and Dr. Reese appointed in his place.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. W. S. Stockton.

Thursday Morning. May 5.

Conference opened by reading the Scriptures and prayer. Roll called; 31 members present. Minutes read.

Moved, by Bro. Suer, That the Minutes just read be amended by striking out the Report of Committee on S. Carolina Conference. *Lost.*

The hour having arrived, Conference proceeded to the election of President and two Secretaries.

Bros. Whetstone, Ragan and Crutchley were appointed tellers.

On the second balloting, Rev. A. SHINN was declared to be duly elected President.

On the first balloting, Bros. John J.

Reed and A. H. Bassett were elected Secretaries.

On motion of Bro. Stockton, *Resolved*, That our venerable and beloved brethren N. Snethen, S. K. Jennings and B. Richardson, be respectfully requested to take seats in this Conference, as honorary members, and to participate in its deliberations.

A communication was read by the Secretary from Committee on Street Preaching in this City; which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Appointments.

Bro. Stockton, Chairman of the Committee on Means of Grace, introduced the following Report:

"The Committee on Means of Grace, respectfully recommends that the second paragraph, on page 91 of Discipline, be stricken out. Also, that in the 'Order of the Administration of the Lord's Supper,' p 93, the words in italics shall be altered so as to read: 'In the commencement of the communion service, the officiating minister, or ministers, shall repair to the table, uncover the elements, and after the singing of a hymn, the following invitation shall be given.' After which, insert from page 96: 'Ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways, draw near in faith, and partake of this ordinance to your comfort.' After which, the minister shall read the paragraph on page 93, commencing with 'dearly beloved brethren,' then uniting the second paragraph on page 93 and 96, and placing the paragraph on page 96 the first in order.

"W. S. Stockton, Chair. Com."

On motion of Bro. Collins, *Resolved*. That the Report be laid on the table.

On motion of the same brother, *Resolved*. That the 3d Rule of Order be amended, to read: that the Roll be called and the Minutes be read at the opening of each session."

On motion of Bro. Graves, *Resolved*. That our venerable Bro. Snethen be requested to deliver a Sermon before this

General Conference, on Tuesday afternoon next, at 4 o'clock.

Moved, by Bro. Graves, That Biographical Sketches of our deceased Ministers and Preachers be compiled and printed in a book. *Referred to the Literary Committee.*

Bro. Webster offered various Resolutions, which were received and referred to the Executive Committee.

Bro. Bassett, at his own request, was released from the Committee on Boundaries.

Bro. Collins, from Illinois, was added to the Committee on Boundaries. Also, Bros. Fish, of Vermont, and Woodhouse, of Virginia.

Moved, by Bro. Webster, That if a minister of an Annual Conference be left without an appointment, at his own request, he shall be a member of the Quarterly Conference of the Circuit or Station within which he resides. *Referred to the Executive Committee.*

Moved, by Bro. Jacobs, That the Executive Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing some law, recognizing the right of Annual Conferences to appoint ministers to take charge of Bethel Stations, for any length of time that, in their judgment, they may deem proper. *Laid on the table.*

Bro. Norris presented the following Resolutions from the Boston District:

Resolved, That the state of the work within the bounds of this Conference is such, as, in our opinion, to destroy some of our best societies, unless in some cases ministers can be permitted to remain in Stations more than two years, and in Circuits more than three years.

"Also, *Resolved*, That our representatives to the General Conference be, and they are hereby instructed, either by recommending a Convention, or otherwise, as the case may require, to seek to obtain for this Conference, at least, the right of allowing appointments to be perpetuated beyond the present specified time." *Ordered to lie on the table.*

On motion of Bro. Reese, *Resolved*, That the request of Bro. Williams for Statistical information respecting churches, their value, &c., &c., for publication, be

attended to, so far as practicable.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Snethen.

Thursday Afternoon.

Conference opened with reading the Scriptures and prayer by Bro. Graves.

The Roll was called, and 43 members answered to their names.

Minutes of morning session read, corrected and approved.

On motion of Bro. Graves, *Resolved*, That the report of the Committee on Means of Grace be now brought up.

After reading the report, *Resolved*, That the report be taken up item by item.

The first item was read, recommending the striking out of the second paragraph at page 91 of Discipline, under the head, "Means of Grace."

On motion of Dr. Reese, *Resolved*, That the whole report of the Committee be recommended and that four brethren be added to the Committee.

On motion of Bro. Whitfield, *Resolved*, That a Special Committee be appointed to take into consideration a request from the Virginia Annual Conference respecting the order of ministers, viz: Elders. *Referred accordingly.*

On motion of the same, *Resolved*, That the Judiciary Committee take into consideration that part of the first item of the 7th Article of the Constitution, which specifies the composition of the Annual Conferences. *Referred accordingly.*

Resolved, That the card presented by Rev. Dr. Breckenridge, asking for ministerial assistance in his church on Sabbath next, be referred to the Committee on Appointments.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. McCaine.

Friday Morning, May 6.

Conference opened with religious exercises by Bro. Ragan.

Roll called, and 34 members present.

The Chair announced the following additional members to *Committee on Means of Grace*—Bros. Reese, Lipscomb, Whetstone and Jno. Clarke.

Committee on Orders—Bros. Whitfield, Allbright and Waters.

Bro. Brown, Chairman of Executive

Committee reported the following:

"The Executive Committee make the following, as a part of their report. Under the head of 'Additional Duties of the President,' p. 60, item 4th, add the following: *'Provided always, that no new District shall be created, with less than eight hundred members within its bounds at the time of its formation.'* Then at the end, add the following, in relation to new fields of labor, p. 60: *'Whenever, in the interval of Conference, a call shall be made upon the President of an Annual Conference for a minister to render service in any place, not already included in some other Circuit, Station, or Mission, within his District, or upon ground without the territorial limits of any District; or in case the President shall be fully satisfied from his own personal knowledge, or otherwise, of the need of such ministerial services, without any special call upon him for aid, he shall have authority to appoint a Missionary in all such cases.'*" *Laid on the table.*

Bro. Norris, Chairman of Literary Committee, reported the following, viz:

"The Literary Committee beg leave to report, in part, as follows: 'Having had under mature consideration the request of the Boston District for the publication of an edition of the Hymn Book, printed in large type, your Committee recommend the adoption of the subjoined resolution:

"Resolved, That this General Conference do hereby recommend to the Book Committee to publish an edition of the Hymn Book, of duodeclimo size, and in Small Pica type.

"We beg leave further to report, on the

Resolutions of Bro. Graves, respecting the publication of Biographical Sketches of our deceased ministers in a book that we deem the proposition impracticable.

T. F. Norris, Chairman.

Moved by Bro. Graves that the Minutes of our present General Conference

be presented to the Editor of the Methodist Protestant and Family Visitor as they are corrected, for publication. *Laid on the table.*

Moved, by the same, That the pamphlet entitled "Questions and Answers on Church Government, showing the points of difference between the M. E. and M. P. Churches," be revised and published by the Book-Committee, and put for sale with the books of our church. *Referred to the Literary Committee.*

Moved, by Bro. Webster, That this General Conference hereby request the Book Committee to publish a Model Book for the use of our church. *Referred to same Committee.*

A Memorial on Slavery, signed by Thos. W. Stevens, and thirty-five others, from Ligonier Circuit, Pittsburg Conference, was read by the Secretary. Also, a Memorial on Slavery, signed by R. T. Simonson, and sixty-nine others, in Deer-ville Circuit, Pittsburg Conference, was

handed in by Bro. Brown.

Moved, by Bro. Collins, That a Special Committee of five be appointed, to whom shall be referred two Memorials just introduced, and all other Memorials, with instructions to report thereon.

Bro. Stier moved to amend, by striking out five and inserting seven. *Lost.*

Bro. Springer was, on motion, permitted to withdraw his motion.

Moved, by Bro. Collins, That six be added to the Committee on Memorials.—*Lost.*

On motion of Bro. Springer, *Resolved*, That four members be added to the Committee on Memorials.

On motion of Bro. Collins, *Resolved*, That the two Memorials on Slavery, and all other similar documents, be referred to this Committee.

The Chair requested that the Conference elect the additional members of the Committee.

Moved, by Bro. Springer, That the Conference elect, by ballot, the four additional members.

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be presented to the Editor of the Methodist Protestant and Family Visitor, as they are corrected, for publication. *Laid on the table.*

Moved, by the same, That the pamphlet entitled "Questions and Answers on Church Government, showing the points of difference between the M. E. and M. P. Churches," be revised and published by the Book Committee, and put for sale with the books of our church. *Referred to the Literary Committee.*

Moved, by Bro. Webster, That this General Conference hereby request the Book Committee to publish a Music Book for the use of our church. *Referred to same Committee.*

A Memorial on Slavery, signed by Thos. W. Stevens, and thirty-five others, from Ligonier Circuit, Pittsburg Conference, was read by the Secretary. Also, a Memorial on Slavery, signed by R. T. Simonson, and sixty-nine others, in Deer-ville Circuit, Pittsburg Conference, was

handed in by Bro. Brown.

Moved, by Bro. Collins, That a Special Committee of five be appointed, to whom shall be referred two Memorials just introduced, and two Memorials, with instructions to report thereon.

Bro. Stier moved to amend, by striking out five and inserting seven. *Lost.*

Bro. Springer was, on motion, permitted to withdraw his motion.

Moved, by Bro. Collins, That six be added to the Committee on Memorials.—*Lost.*

On motion of Bro. Springer, *Resolved*, That four members be added to the Committee on Memorials.

On motion of Bro. Collins, *Resolved*, That the two Memorials on Slavery, and all other similar documents, be referred to this Committee.

The Chair requested that the Conference elect the additional members of the Committee.

Moved, by Bro. Springer, That the Conference elect, by ballot, the four additional members.

Moved, by Bro. Webster, That the motion be amended, by adding, "and that a plurality of votes constitute an election. *Lost.*

On taking the vote on the original motion of Bro. Springer, it was lost.

So the additional members of the Committee on Memorials are to be appointed by the Chair.

On motion of Bro. Whitfield, *Resolved*, That a Special Committee of three be appointed to inquire into the expediency of opening an official correspondence and intercourse with the Wesleyan Association, and other secedent Methodist denominations in Great Britain, and report to this Conference.

The Report of the Book Committee was read by the Secretary, and referred by order to the Literary Committee. It reads as follows:

To the President and Representatives of the Methodist Protestant Church, in General Conference assembled:

Beloved Brethren:

In accordance with the Regulations of the General Conference, the Book Committee respectfully present the following Report:

By reference to the proceedings of the General Conference of 1838, it will be seen that several important duties were imposed upon the Book Committee appointed by said Conference, the most essential of which are hereinafter stated.

From the time of our organization as a Church, in 1830, up to 1838, our Church had no Book Concern; but was dependent upon the liberality and enterprise of a single individual, and an incorporated company, for a supply of books, and especially for the publication of our Hymn book and Discipline — thousands of which have been annually needed by our fellowship. The General Conference of 1838 determined to make a decided effort in view of establishing a Church Book Concern, which, though limited in its commencement, might, with judicious management be greatly extended, and made an efficient auxiliary in aid of the finances of the respective Annual Conferences.

In view of this laudable object, the General Conference authorized the Committee to create a Loan of \$20,000, by issuing stock to that amount, in shares of \$50 each, bearing an interest of 6 per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, and redeemable on July 1st, 1844. In obedience to this authority, the Committee prepared and issued stock to the amount of \$10,600, signed, on behalf of the Church, by James R. Williams, as Chairman, and Beale A. Richardson, as Secretary of the Committee;—a specimen of which is herewith exhibited. The Committee were also directed to engage an Agent, or Agents, to travel through the several Districts for the purpose of selling the Stock, and soliciting donations in aid of the establishment of the contemplated Book Concern, and of finally redeeming and cancelling the said Stock.

Under instructions adapted to these ends, the late Rev. Samuel J. Harris was employed and visited several of the Southern Districts. The nett proceeds of his efforts were as follows:

Sale of Church scrip—none.	
Donations in stock of the Book Company,	\$875
Donations in cash,	932
	<hr/>
	\$1,807

The Committee were also authorized to purchase of the Book Company, such books and stereotype plates as might be deemed advantageous to the Church. In furtherance of this authority, they purchased of the Company

Books to the amount of	\$1,200
Stereotype plates of Clarke's Commentary,	8,600
	<hr/>
	\$9,800

To this were added the proceeds of donations made to the Church, through the efforts of former travelling Agents—the Rev. Thomas H. Stockton, Augustus Web-

ster, and the late William Kesley— which had been invested with the book company, amounting to \$2,871, all of which was paid to the committee in books,

making a capital of \$1,071, in books, and \$5,600 in plates. On this small capital was the Church Book Concern instituted in 1838.

The limited success of the travelling Agent together with the small demand for books, soon convinced the Committee that it would be impracticable to work the plates of the Commentary without borrowing additional funds, and thus incurring a responsibility unauthorized by the General Conference. They therefore determined to propose to the Directors of the Book Company a return, or surrender of the plates, which proposal was favorably received by the Company; and the following terms were agreed on:

1st. The plates to be returned to the company at the price for which they were purchased by the committee, but to remain in possession of the committee as security for the payment of the Church scrip, which had been passed over to the company for their purchase, and paid away by the company in settlement of individual claims of their creditors.

2dly. The Company to redeem this scrip in twelve months, return it to the Committee and take the plates. But in the event of the Company's failing so to do, the Committee to be at liberty to sell the plates on account of the Company, and apply the avails to the redemption of the scrip.

3dly. The Committee to pay the interest on the scrip received and passed away by the company, up to November, 1839, and to receive the plates of Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History as security for the repayment of said interest, with authority to sell them, if the Company should fail to refund the same.

The Committee paid the interest up to the period named, and hold the plates of Mosheim in pledge,—as also the plates of Clarke, as security for the redemption of the scrip. Such has been the state of the times, that neither the company nor the committee have been able to effect a sale of these plates. They now remain, awaiting the disposal of the present conference.

It is the opinion of the committee, that, if ways and means can be devised to redeem the scrip, the church ought to own the plates. They are in good condition, especially the plates of the Old Testament, which are in all respects equal to new plates, only a small number of copies having ever been worked off from them. They cost the company \$10,500. The plates of Mosheim are also in fine condition, and originally cost \$2,500.

Something decisive must be done speedily, in view of redeeming the church scrip, or the church must suffer in her reputation and credit, and in all probability, those brethren who have signed the scrip, will be put to much inconvenience by the holders of the same, and possibly be involved in serious pecuniary loss.

The General Conference of 1838 authorized the committee to clothe itself with corporate powers, by adopting the company's charter, or procuring one from the Legislature of Maryland, adapted to their condition as a church concern.— They pursued the latter course, and procured a charter in January, 1840, a copy of which is transmitted, marked Exhibit A.

Since the last General Conference, the committee have issued three editions of the Hymn book, amounting to 11,000 copies, and five editions of the Discipline, amounting to 1,000 copies. Many miscellaneous books have been sold, and generally paid for. The concern may be considered as having reached a point, at which its difficulties are nearly all overcome. If properly managed and liberally patronized, it will unquestionably be productive, and yield a handsome revenue to the church. Sales to the amount of \$14,000 have been made, of which \$9,500 have been received, leaving outstanding the sum of \$2,500, all of which is believed to be good, with the exception, perhaps, of \$209.80.

The following statement will exhibit the financial condition of the book concern proper.

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Am't. church scrip is- sued on account of plates and book	\$9,800
Am't. church scrip re- deemed	850
	<hr/> \$8,950.00
Cash due Jno. Clark for cash loaned	302.50
Cash due E. Lycitt for binding	80.00
Cash due G. Reese for binding	150.00
Cash due J. Cushing & Co. for purchase	51.00
	<hr/> 613.50
	<hr/> \$9,563.50
By amount due from Book Company, se- cured by pledge of the plates	8,921.75
By amount due from sundry persons, as per list marked "B."	2,484.09
By amount Stock on hand	2,431.70
By amount Cash	60.00
	<hr/> 13,897.54
Leaving a surplus of	<hr/> \$4,334.04

THE PAPER.

The General Conference of 1838 also directed a continuance of the church-periodical, under a new name and form. The title was changed from "Methodist Protestant" to "The Methodist Protestant and Family Visitor," and the form from *quarto* to *folio*. It was to be edited and published in the city of Baltimore, under the editorial care of Rev. Thomas H. Stockton, and the nett proceeds to be applied towards raising a fund for a book concern. Bro. Stockton resigned the appointment soon after the adjournment of the conference, and, as the conference is aware, Brother E. Yeates Reese was subsequently appointed to fill the vacancy. The committee proceeded, with no small

degree of anxiety in the publication, on account of the large amount of delinquencies among the subscribers, and the heavy debts due upon the preceding volumes:— no less than \$1,800 of borrowed money being due to persons who had generously stepped forward, in the hour

of need, and by personal sacrifices sustained the publication. Nearly six hundred names were at once stricken from the subscription list, being of persons who had received the paper for years and had neglected or refused to pay therefor. We present a brief statement of each volume under the charge of the present committee. Volume 5th was sent to about

1550 subscribers.

Its receipts to this time have been - - - - - \$3,862.44
Its expenses - - - - - 3,679.26

Leaving as the nett gain or profit 183.18

Volume 6th was commenced with an improvement in the size and general appearance, as compared with the 5th. The number of subscribers with which it commenced, was 1880.

Its receipts have been - - - - - \$3,932.78
" expenses " - - - - - 3,427.82

Its clear profit - - - - - 504.96

Volume 7th underwent no change in form or appearance. It commenced with 1950 subscribers.

Its expenses have been - - - - - \$3,704.10
" receipts " - - - - - 3,678.15

Present deficiency (which is reduced weekly) - - - - - 25.95

From the amount of receipts for the 7th volume as compared with those of the 6th, it is manifest that a much larger amount of clear profit has been received on account of it, than was obtained on account of the 6th.

The 8th volume in all respects resembles the 6th and 7th. At its commencement it had 2000 subscribers. It has

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reached its 41st number. Its expenses are estimated at \$3,200. Its receipts thus far have been \$2,018.21.

Large amounts are still due on account of the present volume, and considerable sums on account of the two former volumes. Taking the past as an earnest, a large proportion of these arrearages will be collected.

The committee furnish a list of the names of all persons who have discontinued the paper without paying their dues, or from whom it has been withheld by the committee in consequence of such non-payment, arranged under the head of the States in which they resided at the time of the discontinuance, marked D, and also a list of amounts due from persons now subscribers, marked C.

The debt of \$1,800 mentioned as due on the volumes of the paper published between 1834 and 1838, has been met in the following way. The committee borrowed from the Phœbean Society of Baltimore, \$800, for which they gave church scrip. on which they have regularly paid the interest; they borrowed \$100 from an individual, paying the interest punctually. and the remaining \$700 they have paid out of the proceeds of the Paper, after all its current expenses have been defrayed.

The committee furthermore report that Drs. Jennings and Waters and Bros. Chappell and Cox have severally resigned their places in this Board, and that Bros. Charles W. Ridgely and William L. Richardson were elected in their stead. The Board consists, at present, of eight members, which is the number of names inserted in the Act of Incorporation.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES R. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

CHAS. W. RIDGELY, Sec'y.

May 6, 1842.

Moved by Bro. Graves, That the Book Committee be authorized to appoint an Agent in each Annual Conference to collect the debts due for the Conference paper, books, &c. *Laid on the table.*

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Jacobs.

Friday Afternoon.

Dr. Waters in the Chair.

Conference opened with exercises by Bro. Slier.

On calling the roll, 35 members answered to their names.

The Minutes of the forenoon session were read and approved.

Bro. Fish, from Vermont, introduced two Resolutions from his Conference, and moved their reference to the Executive Committee. The first is as follows:

"Resolved, That this Conference is opposed to any alteration in our Constitution or Discipline, which shall go to infringe on our present regulations in regard to stationing ministers and preachers."

Bro. Collins moved, That the Resolution lie on the table. *Lost.*

The second Resolution is as follows:

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this Conference, the Discipline ought to be so amended as to make it the duty of Superintendents of Circuits, when application is made to them for a letter of dismission, to bring the case before the Class of which the applicant is a member."

On motion of Bro. Graves, both Resolutions were referred to the Executive Committee.

Bro. Jacobs introduced a paper, containing instructions to their Delegates, adopted by the New York Annual Conference, and moved its reference to the appropriate Committee, which was ordered. It reads as follows:—

"1. To obtain, if possible, such an alteration of the rule for trying members, as shall prevent factional members from taking their case to a class where a majority may be affected—leaving the matter to be brought when the minister deems it necessary for the wholesome discipline of the church, before the whole church, i. e., male members in good standing. *Referred to the Judiciary Committee.*

"2. That a Resolution be passed discountenancing and condemning Slavery, in its principle and practice, as anti-scriptural, and consequently a moral evil. Also, That a provision be made exonerating the

North, West and East from all connexion with the evil." *Referred to the Committee on Memorials.*

"3. That in electing Delegates to the Annual Conference, no person shall be appointed who is not a regular communicant and attends his class punctually."—*Referred to the Committee on Means of Grace.*

"4. That something more precise and definite be placed in the Discipline in view of our members attending class-meetings, so that no person be considered in full communion that does not attend class-meetings, except for good and sufficient reasons." *Referred to the same Committee.*

"5. That an expression of the General Conference be had in view of making it obligatory upon ministers to join the Quarterly Conference most adjacent to

their residence." *Referred to the Executive Committee.*

"6. That the Representatives be recommended to have our Discipline so altered as to recognize but one order of ministers, viz: Elders." *Referred to the Committee on Orders.*

On motion of Bro. Norris, *Resolved*, That a suitable book be procured, and the records of the former Sessions and the present Session, be entered and preserved.

Bro. Fish introduced Resolutions of the Vermont Conference, respecting Slavery, which were admitted as a Memorial, and by former Resolution, *referred to the Committee on Memorials.*

Moved, by Bro. Bryant, That in the opinion of this General Conference, the Discipline is sufficiently explicit on the subject of the probation of licentiates in the itinerancy; that they are eligible to orders after having travelled two years--their moral character being good—and then become members of the Annual Conference. *Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.*

Bro. Barkley presented a Memorial from E. H. Rice, and others, of the Genessee District, on the subject of Slavery, which was read, and by former Resolution, *referred to the Committee on Memorials.*

Bro. Carson introduced a document on the same subject from the Ohio District. *Referred to the same Committee.*

Bro. Smith, of Indiana, presented a Memorial from members in Indiana, signed by John Collins and 35 others, on the same subject. *Referred to the same Committee.*

Bro. Barkley introduced the following Resolution, which after reading, was on motion, *referred to the Committee on Boundaries.*

"Resolved, That the dividing line between the Genessee District, and the Onandagua District, be as follows, viz: commencing at a point on the Pennsylvania State Line, due South from the head of Seneca Lake; thence to the head of said Lake; thence through the centre of the Lake to the foot thereof, i. e., where the waters leave the Lake, and thence in a direct line to where the old Preemption Line intersects Lake Ontario."

Bro. Hicklin introduced, and proceeded to read a Memorial from members in Madison Circuit, Indiana, on Slavery. In the progress of the reading, the language was objected to as indecorous. And on motion of Bro. Whitfield, the further reading of the document was suspended.

Moved, by Bro. Butler, That in the opinion of this General Conference, the language of the document presented by the member from Indiana is unchristian, and as such offensive, and that, therefore, the Conference will not receive said document.

While the above was under consideration,

On motion, adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Whetstone.

Saturday Morning, May 7.

Conference opened with prayer and reading the Scriptures by Bro. John Clarke.

The Roll was called, and 32 members answered to their names.

Minutes read and amended.

Bro. Stockton presented the Report of the Committee on Means of Grace. After reading, the Report was, on motion, laid on the table.

Bro. Norris introduced the Report of the Literary Committee, which, after reading, was, on motion, laid on the table.

Bro. Witsil presented a report in part of the Committee on Education, which was also laid on the table.

The Chair announced the names of Bros. McCaine, Waters and Reese as the Committee to correspond with the Wesleyan Association and other secedent Methodist denominations in Great Britain.

On motion of Bro. Ragan, *Resolved*, That Bros. Shinn, Snethen and Jennings be added to the Committee.

Moved, by Bro. Stockton, That a Committee of three ministers or laymen of this church, be appointed to prepare and publish a work, not to exceed 200 duodecimo pages, to be entitled "The Methodist Protestant Manual," to consist of an exposition and defence of the Elementary Principles, Constitution, Discipline and Usages of the Methodist P. Church. *Referred to the Literary Committee.*

The Chair introduced a Memorial from Pittsburg Circuit, signed by Ralph Lee and 55 others, respecting Slavery, which, agreeably to a former resolution, was *referred to the Committee on Memorials.*

Bro. Jno. Clarke, Jr., introduced a Memorial upon the same subject, signed by C. Woodruff and 74 others, from Adamsville Circuit. Also, one from G. Jones and 65 others, from Coshocton Circuit, Pittsburg Conference, and one from F. Alsip and 49 others, from Sharpsburg Station, Pittsburg Conference.

The same brother introduced a Resolution of the Pittsburg Conference, on the same subject, all of which were *referred to the same Committee.*

On motion of Bro. Sier, *Resolved*, That Bros. Robert Wilson, Levi R. Reese, Josiah Varden and Daniel E. Reese, be invited to the privileges of honorary members.

On motion also, *Agreed*, That any of our ministers who may be present, shall have the same privileges extended to them.

On motion of Bro. Williams, *Resolved*, That brothers Wm. R. Stewart, John Chappell and J. J. Harrod be also invited to the privileges of honorary membership.

Bro. Brown presented a further report on behalf of the Executive Committee.—*Laid on the table.*

Bro. Whitfield moved, That the Committee on Memorials be instructed, should they report the number of Petitions, to designate from what District said Petitions came, with the number of male and female signatures. *Lost.*

The Chair announced the names of the additional members of the Committee on Memorials, viz: Bros. Graves Bennett, Light and Fish.

Bro. Williams offered the following, as an amendment, to be added to the Discipline, page 130, 4th paragraph:

"Immediately after the rise of the General Conference, the Book Committee's Report shall be published in our respective periodicals for the information of the Church at large." *Referred to the Literary Committee.*

Bro. Williams offered the following:

Resolved, That the Discipline, at page 130, paragraph 5th, be so amended as to read, "in proportion to the same number of ministers under the stationing authority of the respective Conferences." *Referred to the same Committee.*

On motion of Bro. Williams, *Resolved*, That page 131 of the Discipline be stricken out; also the first part of page 132, to the end of the first paragraph, at the word—respectively.

Moved, by Bro. Bibb, That the Committee on Boundaries be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adding that portion of the territory lying South of the Tennessee River, within the State of Alabama, and not embraced in the Alabama District, to said District, thereby making the Tennessee river the line. *Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.*

Moved, by Bro. Fish, That a Committee of two ministers be appointed to prepare and submit to the — Annual Conference for its approval, a Catechism, for the use of

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the M. P. Church. *Referred to the Literary Committee.*

Moved, by the same brother, That the Executive Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline on page 61 and 62, by erasing all the 5th section after the words "prayer-meetings," except the following words: "To visit the sick, the poor, the aged and infirm members, as well as those in health and better circumstances," and to insert after the words "prayer meetings," on page 61, section 5, the following words: "And he shall take the counsel and direction of the Quarterly Conference in regard to the most profitable mode of holding Love Feasts." And so to alter the numbering of the sections on p. 61 and 62, as to make the words "to visit the sick," the 6th section, and altering the numbering of the other sections so as to make them correspond with these alterations. *Referred to the Executive Committee.*

A Memorial on Slavery from Laban Smith and 22 others, from Michigan, Franklin Circuit, was read by Bro. Bassett, and *referred to the Committee on Memorials.*

A Memorial on Slavery from the Ohio District, signed by J. H. Thomas and 67 others, was also *referred to the Committee on Memorials.*

Bro. Bassett introduced a letter from J. T. Pratt, from Michigan. *Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.*

Moved, by Bro. Jno. Clarke, Jr., That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making more definite provision in the Discipline: 1st. To secure the validity and purpose of the judicial actions and decisions of our churches against any evasion by removal out of the precincts of the church where such action was had.

2d. To prevent Superintendents or Leaders' meetings from receiving as members those who may apply for admission, without suitable testimonials, as provided for in the Constitution and Discipline. *Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.*

Moved, by Bro. Graves, That the 1st

section on "Quarterly Conference," on page 43 of the Discipline, be so altered as to read after the word "member" and "Chairman," so as to make the whole sentence read, when amended, "When the President of the District is present, he shall be a member and Chairman of the Conference, but not ultimately responsible to the Conference."

2. That the 7th section, under the same head, be so altered as to read President in place of Superintendent in the third line. *Laid on the table.*

Conference took up the unfinished business of yesterday, viz: the resolution of Bro. Butler, under consideration at the time of adjournment.

Bro. Butler moved to strike out so much of the Resolution as declares the language of the Memorial from Indiana "unchristian and offensive." *Lost.*

On putting the vote upon the Resolution, the ayes and nays were called for by one-fifth of the members, and resulted as follows:—

Ayes—Bros. Burns, Collins, Butler, Whitefield, Albright, Norris, Waters, Williams, McCaine, Woodhouse, Rankin, Naudain, Crutchley, Thomas, Waugh, Rusk, Bibb, Lipscomb—18.

Nays—Bros. Shinn, Ragan, Jno. Clarke, Jr., Springer, Bassett, Witsell, Jacobs, Bennett, Hicklin, Webster, Reese, Sier, Graves, John Smith, Pennell, Bryant, Freeman, Souder, Lewis, Jas. Clarke, Carson, Whetstone, Reed, Wm. Smith, Burton, Whitaker, Stockton, Fish, Barkley, Morris, Light—31.

Bro. Brown, at his request, was, on motion, excused from voting.

On motion of Bro. Springer, *Resolved*, That the language in the Memorial, read by the member from Indiana, is uncourteous and improper to be read to a deliberative body.

The Report of the Committee on Means of Grace was called up, and read:—

"The Committee on Means of Grace respectfully recommend that the second paragraph on page 91 of the Discipline, under the title "Means of Grace," be stricken out; and the following inserted:

"Members of the church who habitu-

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ally neglect either of these means of grace, shall first be affectionately admonished by the leader of the class to which they belong; and if any will not hear him, the leader shall report the neglectors to the Superintendent; if any refuse to hear him, the Superintendent shall report the case to the class of which the neglector is a member in Circuits, and to the Leaders' Meeting in Stations; and if the duties neglected are such as are prescribed by the word of God, the neglector shall be dealt with as the Constitution and Discipline of the Church direct in such cases.

W. S. STOCKTON,
W. C. LIPSCOMB,
PEYTON S. GRAVES,
JOHN BURNS,
JOHN S. REESE,
J. WHETSTONE,
JOHN CLARKE, Jr.

"May 6, 1842."

Moved, That it be adopted.

Bro. Clarke moved to amend, by striking out all after Superintendent, and inserting, "Whose duty it shall be to employ all prudent means to induce them to yield a faithful attendance on all the means of grace prescribed by this church."

While the amendment was under consideration,

Conference adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Williams.

Saturday Afternoon.

Conference convened, and opened with reading the Scriptures and prayer by Bro. Albright.

The President, being absent, Bro. Stier was called to the Chair.

The Roll was called, and 26 members answered to their names.

The Minutes of the morning session was read and amended.

Bro. Springer, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following Report:

"The Committee on the Judiciary beg leave to report, that so far as they are ac-

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quainted with the judicial regulations of the Discipline of the M. P. Church, they know of no modification called for. All that seems to be wanted is an efficient execution to carry them into operation. Whatever difficulties occur in the government of the church, are more owing to the infancy of our societies, and their slight acquaintance with our judicial regulations, than to any defect in the system.

"The Conference, by resolution, instructed the Committee to inquire into the expediency of providing for a more equitable representation in the Annual Conferences in accordance with the 1st Section of Art. VII. of the Constitution. Your Committee are not aware of any inconvenience growing out of the present regulations on that subject, and are not in favor of any alteration. The Annual Conferences are mainly executive bodies, and therefore should not be tenacious about a fractional inequality of representation; besides, should either the ministry or laity be in the minority in any Annual Conference, their rights are protected in the Discipline by giving either party the privilege of calling for a division of the two classes of members, and for their voting separately.

SPRINGER, Chp."

Moved, by Bro. *Levine*. That the Report lie on the table. *Carried*.

On motion of Bro. *Burns*, *Resolved*, That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making some provision in the Discipline to secure to an accused member of a Station or Circuit an impartial trial, when the church of which the accused is a member, becomes prejudiced through the improper influence of the Superintendent, or otherwise, against the accused.

Conference resumed the unfinished business of the morning session, viz: Bro. Clarke's motion to amend the Report of the Committee on Means of Grace.

Bro. Brown moved to amend the amendment by striking out the word "prescribed" and inserting the word "recognized."
Carried.

On motion of Bro. Springer, *Resolved*, That the Report as a whole be committed

to a Special Committee to be chosen by ballot.

Moved, by Bro. Collins, That the Report lie on the table.

His motion having precedence of the motion to commit, it was acted on by the Conference, and adopted.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Brown.

Monday Morning, May 9.

Conference met, and opened with prayer by Bro. Collins.

The Roll was called, and 27 members answered to their names.

The Minutes of the last session were read and amended.

Bro. Norris, from the Literary Committee, presented and read a Report of said Committee.

Bro. Burns moved that the Report be adopted.

On motion of Bro. Whitefield, *Agreed*, That the Report be acted upon, item by item.

Moved, by Bro. Reese, That we call up the former Report of same Committee, laid on the table on Friday last, and act upon it in connexion with the present Report. *Carried*.

The consideration of the second item was taken up, respecting the publication of a Catechism.

Bro. Ragan moved to amend the item, by filling the blank with the word Maryland. *Carried*.

Bro. Collins moved to amend the item, so as to have it to read, that it be subject to the approval of the next General Conference.

After some deliberation, the previous question was called for and sustained.

On taking the final vote, the motion to amend was lost.

The item under consideration was adopted as follows:

Resolved, That a Committee of three ministers be appointed to prepare and submit to the Maryland Annual Conference, for its approval, a Catechism for the use of the Methodist Protestant Church."

The next item was then taken into consideration, embracing the Resolution of Bro. Williams:

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Resolved, That the last two lines of the Discipline, page 130, 5th paragraph, be stricken out, and the following inserted, "the number of ministers, under the stationing authority of the respective Conferences."

Moved, by Bro. McCaine, That a Special Committee be raised, to whom shall be referred the above Resolution, and the transactions of the Book Committee with the Book Company.

Bro. Burns moved to recommit the whole matter to the Literary Committee.

The motion to recommit having precedence, Bro. Burns' motion prevailed.

The next item of the Report of the Literary Committee came under consideration, recommending the publication of a "Methodist Protestant Manual."

Moved, That the item be adopted.

Bro. Waters moved to amend, by adding after the words "and defence," the words "at discretion." *Adopted*.

The motion to adopt the item under consideration was lost.

Conference took into consideration, the item of the Literary Committee's report, recommending the publication of a duodecimo edition of our Hymn Book.—*Adopted*.

The remaining item, which recommends the adoption of Bro. Graves' Resolution, for the publication of Biographical Sketches was taken up for consideration, and on motion, laid on the table.

Bro. Lipscomb introduced a paper, proposing amendments to the Discipline, respecting "Means of Grace," as follows:

"1. The means of grace recognized by this church as enjoined by the word of God, are, the public worship of Almighty God—searching the Scriptures—the Lord's Supper and Private Prayer. Members of the church who habitually neglect either of these means of grace, shall be first admonished by their leader, and exhorted to amendment—if they still continue to neglect, they shall be reported by their leader to the Superintendent, who shall also admonish them of the error of their way, and affectionately exhort to reformation of conduct; but if these ad-

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monitions and exhortations shall be un-
availing, the Superintendent shall then
propose to them voluntarily to withdraw

from the fellowship of the church, and if
they agree to the proposal, they shall be
recorded as withdrawn. But if they re-
fuse to withdraw, they shall be brought to
trial before a committee or the class to
which they may belong, as in other cases
of accused members; and may be either
censured or excluded, as in the judgment
of the committee or class, the nature of
the case and the interests of the church
may require.

"2. The social or prudential means of
grace recognized by this church, are, Class
Meetings, Love Feasts and Family Prayer.
The great utility of these institutions
experience has long since fully demon-
strated. It is therefore expected of all
the members, that they be diligent in the
use of these means; and we, the represen-
tatives of the several Annual Conferences
of the Methodist Protestant Church in
General Conference assembled, do here-
by most earnestly recommend and affec-
tionately entreat the brethren and sisters
of our beloved Zion, in view of their per-
sonal advancement in the divine life, their
family and christian relations, cheerfully
to attend upon and faithfully to observe
the said social or prudential means of
grace." *Laid on the table.*

Bro. Whitefield, on behalf of the Com-
mittee on Orders, submitted the following
Reports from said Committee:

"The majority of the Committee to
whom was referred the subject of inves-
tigating the propriety of having but one
order of ministers in the Church, to be
denominated *Elders*, beg leave to report,
that without submitting any views of their
own upon the facts or evidence connect-
ed with the question, as one of scriptural
authority and decision, or of ecclesiastical
history and precedent, they would, with
due respect to the Memorialists upon the
subject, recommend that no change be
made by this General Conference with
regard to Orders in the Ministry as now
recognized by our church.

FRANCIS WATERS,
ALEX. ALLBRIGHT,

} Com."

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"The minority of the Committee on Orders beg leave to present a counter-report to that of the majority, viz: That whereas, in the opinion of the undersigned, the New Testament Scriptures recognize but one order of ministers, namely, that of Elder or Bishop; therefore, we would report the propriety of so altering the Constitution and Discipline, that only one order of ministers be recognized, to be called either Elder or Bishop, as the Conference may deem most proper.

J. G. WHITFIELD, Chn."

Moved, by Bro. Springer, That the Report of the majority be adopted.

While the motion was under consideration,

Conference adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Waters.

Monday Afternoon.

Conference opened with reading the Scriptures and prayer.

The roll was called. Reading of Minutes deferred.

Conference resumed the unfinished business of the forenoon session, viz: The motion to adopt the report of the majority of the Committee on Orders.

Bro. Springer asked and obtained leave of absence to visit a brother who is at the point of death.

On taking the vote upon the motion to adopt the Report of the majority of the Committee on Orders, the motion prevailed, and the Report was adopted.

Bro. Reese reported from the Committee on Missions, which was, on motion, adopted as follows:

"The Committee on Missions suggest that the following be added to the closing paragraph on page 72: 'And he shall make collections for his own support at places where he may be directed to labor. He shall present to the Conference an accurate account of his receipts and expenditures, and if deficient, shall be entitled to his dividend from the funds of the Conference.'

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Missions be respectfully requested to report to the Conference at as early

a date as will suit their convenience.

JOHN S. REESE, Chair.

JOHN BURNS."

Bro. Jacobs, Chairman of the Committee on Memorials, submitted and read the Report of the majority of said Committee:

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the several Memorials upon Slavery, as connected with the Methodist Protestant Church in these United States beg leave respectfully to report: That they have had under consideration the said Memorials, 13 in number, and bearing upwards of 500 signatures. They have also considered the Resolutions of the Ohio, Pittsburg, New York and New Jersey, Indiana, Champlain, Vermont, Genessee and Onandagua Annual Conferences upon the same subject. Your Committee after prayerful and patient deliberation, have come to the conclusion that the time has arrived when some action should be had by this General Conference, whereby the Northern Conferences should be exonerated from all participation in this great moral evil, as your Committee conceive it to be: and we can discover no way in which this can be done short of some rule being laid down by this body, whereby the 9th item of the Elementary Principles of our church should be more strictly and generally enforced, and the 5th paragraph of section 4th, article 7th of the Constitution more clearly understood by all of our members.

with

"While we would deeply sympathize with our brethren who are situated within the bounds of those States and Territories where slavery is legalized, and where to procure other than slave labor is next to impossible—yet we believe this, their unfortunate situation, is one in which God calls them to suffer, rather than to hold their fellow beings in perpetual bondage; and your Committee cannot believe that the Father of our Mercies will hold us guiltless as an ecclesiastical body, should we turn a deaf ear to the prayer of the petitioners, and the resolves of one half of our Annual Conferences. Therefore, in order that our ministers, preach-

symp

ers, members, and all of our official bodies may more clearly understand their duty in view of the aforesaid item in the Elementary Principles, and also the Article alluded to in the Constitution, we submit the following Resolutions for the action of the Conference.

"1. *Resolved*, That Slavery as it exists in the Methodist Protestant Church in these United States, is opposed to the morality of the Holy Scriptures, and consequently a great moral evil.

"2. *Resolved*, That the several Annual Conferences at the next session, be instructed to record the sense of their several bodies relative to the distinction made in the 1st and 2d sections, article 12th of the Constitution relative to *color*, and should two-thirds of the Annual Conferences decide said distinctions to be unscriptural, or that in their judgment the word 'white' ought to be removed from the said sections, a Convention shall be authorized for the purpose of erasing them.

"Your Committee also recommend the insertion of the following in the General Rules on page 76, immediately following the words, 'doing to others as we would not they should do unto us,' viz: Buying or selling men, women or children, or holding them in slavery.

E. JACOBS, Chair.
H. P. BENNETT,
L. J. FISH,
F. FREEMAN,
T. HICKLIN.

"May 9, 1842."

On motion, laid on the table.

Bro. Brown submitted a further Report from the Executive Committee, which was, on motion, laid on the table.

Bro. Graves moved, That this General Conference recommend to the Book Committee to prepare, on good parchment, Deacons' and Elders' Diplomas, and keep them for sale for the use of Annual Conferences. *Lost*.

Moved, That the Conference take into consideration the paper submitted by Bro. Lipscomb this morning.

After some deliberation, the previous question was moved and sustained.

On taking the vote to take up the paper of Bro. L. the motion was lost.

Moved, by Bro. Waugh, That the 2d paragraph under "Means of Grace" in the Discipline, page 91, be expunged therefrom.

Bro. Springer moved that the Resolution be laid on the table.

After some deliberation, the question was put, and the motion to lie on the table prevailed.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Waters.

Tuesday Morning, May 10.

Conference met, and opened with reading the Scriptures and prayer by Bro. Burns.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of yesterday's sessions read and approved.

On motion, Bros. P. B. Hopper and Andrew A. Lipscomb, were invited to participate in the deliberations of this body as honorary members.

Bro. Springer, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted and read a further Report of said Committee as follows:

"The Judiciary Committee have considered the two Resolutions referred to them, the one asking the Conference to make provision for the trial of refractory members, and the other to make a provision for protecting individuals against oppression on the part of the Superintendent and church. They are of opinion that the existing rule for the trial of members secures these objects as well as any rule they might recommend. If difficulties have occurred under the operation of the present rule for the trial of members, it is more from the imperfection of human society than from any deficiency therein.

The Committee recommend to strike out of the 2d section on 'Quarterly Conferences,' page 43, 'and witnesses,' and the 'S' from the word 'names,' so as to make the article read, 'together with the name of the accuser, shall be referred,' &c. C. SPRINGER, Chn."

On motion, laid on the table.

Bro. Witsil, from the Committee on Boundaries, submitted and read a further Report of said Committee, which as amended and subsequently adopted, reads as follows:

"1. The Arkansas District shall include the States of Arkansas and Missouri, and the Territories west thereof.

"2. The Illinois District shall include the State of Illinois, the Iowa Territory, and all the Territories west to the Rocky Mountains.

"3. Genesee District shall be bounded as follows:—commencing at a point on the Pennsylvania State Line, due South from the head of Seneca Lake, and thence to the head of said Lake; thence through the centre of the Lake to the foot thereof, i. e., where the waters leave the Lake, and thence in a direct line to where the old Preemption Line intersects Lake Ontario.

"4. The Alabama District shall include the State of Alabama up to the Tennessee River, and West Florida.

"5. The Tennessee District shall include the State of Tennessee, so much of the State of Kentucky as is South of the Kentucky River, and so much of Alabama as is North of the Tennessee River.

"6. The Mississippi District shall include the States of Mississippi and Louisiana.

"7. Texas shall be made a Mission under the direction of the Mississippi Conference. T. K. WITSEL, Chn."

On motion, laid on the table.

Bro. McCaine presented and read the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, as follows:

"The Committee on the subject of official correspondence with the Wesleyan Association, and other secedent Methodist denominations in Great Britain, beg leave to recommend the appointment of a Committee or Board to consist of six members: 2 stationed and 2 unstationed ministers, and 2 laymen within the bounds of the Maryland Conference, whose duty it shall be to correspond with those bodies, and to report the result of such correspondence to their Annual Conference, to whom they shall be responsible for their official acts. And, also, further recommend, that all vacancies occurring in said Committee or Board, be supplied by their own act, subject, however, to their Annual Conference. And, lastly, that the said Annu-

al Conference, with the concurrence of the Virginia Annual Conference, be empowered, if in the judgment of the two Conferences it be necessary or expedient to send a delegate or delegates, to be selected from any Conference District in the church, to attend the session of the said Wesleyan Association or other official bodies of Reformers, for the purpose of negotiating and establishing any practicable and proper terms of official intercourse and co-operation for the advancement of the great ends of ecclesiastical liberty and the Gospel of Christ. The said Maryland Annual Conference to make report of all its proceedings to the next General Conference.

ALEXANDER McCaINE, Chair."

Laid on the table.

Bro. Brown submitted and read a further Report from the Executive Committee. *Laid on the table.*

On motion, *Agreed*, That the Conference now take up the previous Reports of the same Committee, submitted and laid on the table at former sittings.

The first item of the Report presented on Friday last, was read, proposing to amend the Discipline at page 60, by adding at the end of the 4th item, "provided always, that no new District shall be created, with less than eight hundred members within its bounds, at the time of its formation."

Bro. Collins moved to strike out the words "eight hundred," and insert four hundred.

Bro. Waugh moved to amend, by inserting *nine hundred*.

Some debate was had upon the number nine hundred, when

On motion, the motion to amend was laid on the table; for the purpose of admitting an amendment offered by Bro. Williams to be incorporated in the Discipline as follows:

"The Annual Conference shall not set off a new District, under section 4, article 9 of the Constitution, unless the said new District contain eight hundred members, except in the cases of frontier Districts, which, however, shall have at least five hundred members." *Adopted.*

The next item of the Report was taken up, considered and adopted as follows:

At page 60 of the Discipline, the following to be added in relation to new fields of labor:

"Whenever, in the interval of Conference, a call shall be made upon the President of an Annual Conference for a minister to render service in any place not already occupied by a minister, or in a station or mission, within his District, or upon ground without the territorial limits of any District; or in case the President shall be fully satisfied from his own personal knowledge, or otherwise, of the need of such ministerial services, without any special call upon him for aid, he shall have authority to appoint a Missionary in all such cases."

The next paragraph of the report then came under consideration, and was, on motion, adopted as follows:

On page 47, item 10, strike out the words, "and time," so as to make the item agree with the law on page 45.

The next item was then considered, and adopted, as follows:

On page 45, paragraph 7, add the following, viz:

"Provided always, that in case there should be no quorum to do business, the Superintendent shall appoint the place as well as the time."

On motion of Bro. Graves, the further consideration of the Report of the Executive Committee was suspended.

Bro Graves then submitted the following Report of the Minority of the Committee on Memorials, which was read and laid on the table.

"The undersigned, the minority of the Committee to whom was referred sundry Memorials and Petitions on the subject of Slavery, beg leave respectfully to report as the result of our most careful deliberations."

"That since the Constitution confers on each Annual Conference the exclusive power to make its own rules and regulations for the admission and government of colored members within its own District, and to make for them such terms of suffrage as the Conferences respectively

may deem proper; and since the General Conference and the Annual Conferences are by the Constitution denied the power to interfere with the constitutional powers of the Civil Government, or with the operations of the Civil Laws, it is recommended that the General Conference adopt the following Resolutions:

Resolved 1. That the General Conference has no constitutional power to take any legislative action upon the subject of Slavery.

Resolved 2. That it is unnecessary and inexpedient for the General Conference to give any expression of opinion in regard to the subject of Slavery by Resolution.

Resolved 3. That we fully accord to all our brethren the right of individual private opinion upon any and all subjects, and also of the freedom of speech and of the press, but will not sanction any abuse thereof.

Resolved 4. That we regard the peace and unity of the Methodist Protestant Church with paramount and heartfelt interest.

Resolved 5. That we deprecate the introduction of any measures into our church-judicatories which are calculated to disturb and threaten the order and stability of the church; and that we recommend all our ministers and members to cultivate harmony among themselves, and to live in the 'unity of the spirit and in the bonds of peace.'

P. S. GRAVES,
W. C. WHITAKER,
BENJAH L. BIBB,
PETER LIGHT."

Bro. Springer moved, That Bro. Shinn have the privilege, at his request, of addressing the Conference for twenty-five minutes previous to taking into consideration the Reports of the Majority and Minority of the Committee on Memorials.

Bro. Waters moved to amend, by adding, after Bro. Shinn, *and any other brother.*

On motion of Bro. Williams, the motion and amendment were laid on the table.

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The next paragraph of the Executive Committee's Report was then read.

And before final action was had thereon,

Conference adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Witsil.

Tuesday Afternoon.

Conference convened, and after prayer by Bro. Waters, the roll was called, and the Minutes of the forenoon session read.

Conference proceeded to take into consideration the paragraph of the Executive Committee's Report, which was under discussion at the time of the last adjournment, viz:

The following to be added on page 50 of the Discipline, section 9:

"The Annual Conference may leave a minister without an appointment at his own request, the ensuing Conference year. But this privilege shall not be extended to a longer time than two years in succession. During this dispensation, the minister shall have no claims on the Conference funds for support, except by consent of the Annual Conference. Ministers thus left, shall be entitled to seats in the Quarterly Conference where they reside, but shall be ultimately amenable to the Annual Conference."

Bro. Whitfield moved to amend, by adding the following:

"And that the Circuit or Station, in whose Quarterly Conference such ministers shall have seats, shall be authorized to elect to the Annual Conference a delegate for each minister sustaining this relation."

While the motion was still pending,

On motion, Conference adjourned till after preaching.

After services at 4 o'clock, conducted by Bro. Snethen agreeably to the request of the Conference, the business of the Conference was resumed.

After considerable debate upon the amendment offered by Bro. Whitefield, the question was put, and the motion to amend, *lost*.

The vote was then taken upon the par-

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agraph of the Committee's Report, under consideration, and the motion to adopt was *negatived*.
Adjourned.

Wednesday Morning, May 11.

Conference met, and opened with religious exercises.

The roll was called, and the Minutes of yesterday afternoon's session read.

Bro. John Smith asked to be released from the Committee to examine Journals. *Granted.*

The President introduced an appeal from W. W. Wallace, L. L. Ambler and James Cover, of the New York Conference, praying for a redress of grievances.

After reading, the document was, on motion, referred to a Special Committee of three.

Bro. John Clarke, Jr., presented a Memorial of M. Adams and 18 others, of New Castle and New Brighton, Pittsburg District, which, agreeably to a previous Resolution, was referred to the Committee on Memorials.

Bro. Webster presented a compilation of Spiritual Songs, not found in the Church Hymn Book, and

Moved, That it be referred to a Committee of three. *Carried.*

Bros. A. A. Lipscomb, Ragan and Lewis, were appointed said Committee.

Moved, by Bro. Graves, That we now take up the Reports of the Committee on Memorials. *Carried.*

Moved, by the same, That this business be the order of Conference until the whole subject be finally disposed of.—*Carried.*

The two Reports were read by the Secretary.

Bro. Williams moved to lay both on the table indefinitely. *Lost.*

Bro. Jacobs moved that the first Resolution in the Report be adopted.

The Resolution is as follows:

"Resolved, That Slavery as it exists in the Methodist Protestant Church in these United States is opposed to the morality of the Ho'y Scriptures, and consequently a great moral evil."

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Bro. Webster in the course of a speech read a substitute.

Bro. Graves moved, to strike out from the Resolution under consideration, all after the word "*Resolved*," and insert the substitute of Bro. Webster. The Chair decided the motion out of order. Bro. Graves appealed from the decision, and the Chair was sustained.

Bro. Reese moved, that we go into a Committee of the whole. *Carried.*

The Committee continued in session the remainder of the forenoon, and also a portion of the afternoon, when the Committee rose.

Conference being in session, Bro. Reese Chairman of the Committee of the whole, reported that no action had been taken.

Bro. Springer moved, that both Reports from the Committee on Memorials be laid on the table, to be taken up to-morrow morning. *Lost.*

Moved, by Bro. Woodhouse, That the two Reports be postponed indefinitely.

Bro. Stier, in speaking upon this motion undertook to read from the Journals of South Carolina Conference.

Bro. McCaine objected to the reading.

The Chair decided that it is the privilege of the members of the Conference to have access to the Journals of an Annual Conference, and to read therefrom if he finds occasion.

Bro. Whitefield appealed from the decision, but by vote of the Conference, the Chair was sustained.

Bro. Norris, a layman, was, on motion, invited to a seat within the bar as an honorary member.

Adjourned, with prayer by Bro. Waters.

Thursday Morning, May 12.

After religious exercises, agreeably to the standing rule, the roll was called, and 32 members were found to be present.

Minutes of yesterday's session read and amended.

The Chair announced the name of Bro. Pennell as a substitute for Bro. John Smith, who was yesterday, at his own request, released from the Committee to examine Journals.

Also, the names of Bros. Brown, John Clarke, Jr. and Carson, were announced as the Committee on the Appeal from members of the New York Conference.

The motion for indefinite postponement, under consideration at the time of the last adjournment, was now resumed.

Bro. Stockton called for the previous question, forasmuch as we are clearly disqualified from acting on the subject. *Call not sustained.*

Bro. Shinn, from the Chair, stated that forasmuch as his position and views as exhibited on yesterday, were misunderstood, he desired to make a brief explanation, which with the leave of Conference, he accordingly proceeded to make.

Bro. Woodhouse asked leave to withdraw his motion for indefinite postponement, and on motion, leave was granted.

Moved, by Bro. Brown, That the Reports of the Committee on Memorials lie on the table.

Bro. Snethen addressed the Conference

SKETCH OF REV. N. SNETHEN'S ADDRESS, in the General Conference, May 12th 1842.

After some preliminary remarks which we could not hear Bro. S. proceed:—

I wish Bro. President to avail myself of an old man's privilege and say something about myself. I hold the Annual Conference of the Ohio District to be essentially abolition. Its members knew my opinions; my brethren in Cincinnati knew my sentiments—my home is among them, yet they wished me to come and talk to you. As the delegates from my Conference have been instructed on this question, I hold myself bound by their instructions yet, as they are not instructed to say that Slavery is a moral evil, I do not contravene the instructions in wishing that such a vote may not pass.

Had my views been adopted by the Convention of 1830, in framing the Constitution, the General Conference would have had no authority to act in cases of this general nature. It should never be empowered, and from Scripture it can never be empowered, to take any vote on a question where more States than one are concerned. This question will circle the whole Union, with its twenty-six sovereign States. We are citizens of different sovereignties, and amenable by Scripture to them severally. It is our duty to respect magistrates.

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This is the basis of my ideas as to the power of members in this country. No Conference, or Convention, or Synod should make laws affecting citizens of different States. If we were a hundred thousand in number, and made a law to contravene the laws of little Delaware, that State might set us at defiance. I am glad it is so—would I have the laws of the Southern States altered? surely;—would I have their slave-institu-

tions changed? To be sure I would! Why then should we not legislate? Because we have no control over them, I would go into these States, and with all my influence would persuade them they were wrong. I live in Ohio. A river divides me from the slave-holders. Over that river I cannot pass with my legislation. No! We have twenty-six States, yet one general organization. The General Government will not protect us if we go into a State and contravene its laws. With folded arms it will look on and see us suffer. We are impotent to abolish this evil by our legislation. Thank God it is so.

I have read a great deal of Ecclesiastical History—all I could procure. I know much of the perversion of power by the priests, and have come to the conclusion that we are all men of like passions. I carry a heart very like that of the priests. Under similar circumstances, I would be about as ambitious as they were. I have seen and felt enough to say, *Touch not, taste not, handle not!* My first thought is to avoid ambition. Laymen are exposed to the same temptation.

Pass this Resolution, that slavery is a moral evil, and what will be the result? You only pass a law, that in the conviction of this Conference it is a moral evil. It will not be the *only* moral evil. After you have said (not *done*, for you can *do* nothing,) all that you can, there will be ten thousand moral evils in the world which you cannot touch. Omnipotence alone can remove them. Let us reverence Omnipotence. Let us realize that ALL THINGS SHALL WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THEM THAT LOVE GOD: not even excepting those moral evils that are in the world, that have been in the world from time immemorial, and that will remain in it when I shall have gone, as I trust, to heaven.

One main reason why this body should give expression to no opinion, though it should be an opinion in which all concur, is that it will make no change in our sentiments. Each will affix his peculiar shade of meaning to it. All might vote on the same side, yet no two think exactly alike.

If you say that slavery is a moral evil, you will express at the South, the views of Southern brethren, as to what constitutes a moral evil, and at the North, the views of Northern brethren. What then? Why, as their views are different, they will act differently. And at the next General Conference the work of expulsion will begin; and the whole force of the Constitution and Discipline will be brought upon them; we should cut off all upon one side, and plead this vote as a justification of the act. And as a good minority man, I suppose I should have to say *Amen!* I expect to live and die a minority man. I desire to have a circle of friends, who will say of me when I am gone, *He was a good minority man.* I said the same things at a meeting of the brethren just before I left Cincinnati.

I am thankful for my present feelings; the fire burns in my bosom. I love you all. I owe much to my brethren, you owe little to me. I am married to you. Do not divorce me. Let me die in the Holy Church matrimonial.

My Conference wished that something should be done. What? That which would do least harm and most good. Four years ago I had no instructions. Now, the thing is changed. My Conference passed instructions. I was not willing to be instructed, though I was willing to act as my Conference desired, so I was not willing to serve as a delegate. The last four years I am glad I have been permitted to witness. I thank God for four years longer salvation of the Methodist Protestant Church. Every day that is added to her age, increases her strength. These four years have proved *glorious years* the last, pre-eminently so. Our success would do no shame to the oldest churches in the land. Who has said to us—*Ichabod! Ichabod! thy glory has departed?* All know that our glory has shone *brighter than ever.* Never have I witnessed such a winter as the last, in showing the goodness of God! Great was the company who drank in the Word of God, as waters from the fountain! Let us, from Ohio, go home, and say we could not get a vote, without putting in jeopardy the interests of the Church.—If this should prove the most barren year in your experience, my ministerial brethren, would you not deplore it, if you traced the cause to some action of this body?

As to the moral character of slavery, I have had my opinion for fifty years. Yet good is going on among the slaves. My father Asbury, that good old man, the colored man's friend, won thousands

and tens of thousands of Southern men to the kingdom of Christ.

Let us leave the thing just where it is! Where there is no law of ours, there will be no transgression by us. Leave it as it is, and there will be no law to gag you, or prohibit your writing or speaking. Our Northern brethren may go on, and speak great things, and write great things, and oh, what floods of light may they not shed over our "benighted" South in four years! Perhaps at the next General Conference, our Southern brethren may come up with open arms, and embrace us on this subject. Brethren who favor Emancipation, you have not always manifested the *patience of hope*. I have gained some things after waiting half a century. The perfect man has let patience have its perfect work. Oh, that I had fully attained to this holy state. Is it not our duty to let patience have its perfect work?

In my short pilgrimage I have had *two homes*. The one in the commercial emporium of a Slave State; the other in the commercial emporium of a free State. I am thankful indeed that my second home is in a free State. But it is difficult for me to say where I have received the most favors. All, in each, has been a succession of favors from my brethren, friends, and fellow citizens. In early times in contemplating an itinerant life, I felt anxious about the means of subsistence. What I shall eat, what I shall drink, where I shall be clothed, are all questions of great interest when one is sent forth without a cent, into this ill-starred world. What can quiet the anxious soul? says that precious text: **VERILY, VERILY, I SAY UNTO YOU, THERE IS NO MAN THAT HATH LEFT HOUSE, OR PARENTS, OR BRETHREN, OR WIFE, OR CHILDREN FOR GOD'S SAKE, WHO SHALL NOT RECEIVE MANIFOLD REWARD IN THIS PRESENT TIME, AND IN THE WORLD TO COME LIFE EVERLASTING.** I have had this precious consolation; I have realized more than the letter of the promise. I left no house; I came to Baltimore, and found one four stories high, and furnished with all the good things of the land and water of this State of Maryland. So much at home was I there, that at a Conference to be holden in that city, when the preachers waited on my friend to know how many preacher he could accommodate, my patron answered, I will take Bro. A., and Bro. B., and Bro. C., and Bro. D., and Bro. Sathan will come to me naturally. I will reverse it, and say that my patron expected me naturally. In Cincinnati it is the same way. A large house with its iron railings, and piazza,

and flower-pots, and a hundred elegancies, in Vine street, is open to me. *There* I am expected naturally. Such a welcome from all its inmates! And all this after such a setting out!

Is it then strange that I should feel such an attachment to my Southern friends? So many blessings, and so freely given! At the moment when a wretched wanderer is mourning over his errors and imperfections, what sort of a heart would I have, not to cherish friendship for my Southern brethren.

Yet this is but one instance in a thousand. In the South when almost burned up with the malaria, they have all, black and white, worn themselves out in waiting upon me.

I want us then to go together. I do not wish to pass any law on the subject. I want the North to do all they can, and the South all they can. And if they must finally part, let it be in friendship. Call a CONVENTION, and part like Abram and Lot, and let each work where he can, in the North, the South, the East, or the West, and throw no stones in each other's way.

I thank the Conference for their patient attention.

On motion of Bro. Graves, a rising vote of thanks was tendered to Bro. Snethen for his address.

While Bro. McCaine was speaking, the hour of adjournment arrived, but by vote of Conference, the adjournment was deferred, for the purpose of giving opportunity to Bro. McCaine to finish his remarks.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Reese.

Thursday Afternoon.

Conference met, and opened with prayer by Bro. Witsil.

In the absence of the President, Bro. Whetstone was called to the Chair.

The roll was called, and 29 members answered to their names.

Bro. Webster made a report, in behalf of the Committee to whom was referred the Methodist Protestant Spiritual Song Book.

After reading, the Report was, on motion, laid on the table.

Bro. Lewis asked and obtained leave of absence.

Bro. Webster moved the *previous question*. on Bro. Brown's Resolution offered this morning, seconded by four brethren *Carried*.

On taking the vote to lay on the table, the ayes and nays were called for by constitutional number; the result was as follows:—

Yeas—Bros. Shown, Springer, Brown, Collins, Butler, Whitefield, Albright, Norris, Waters, Williams, Webster, Lipscomb, Reese, Bordley, Stier, McCaine, Graves, John Smith, Bryant, Sonder, Whetstone, Woodhouse, Whitaker, Rankin, Stockton, Naudain, Waugh, Light, Rusk, Crutchley and Bibb—31.

Nays—Bros. Ragan, John Clarke, Jr., Burns, Bassett, Witsil, Jacobs, Bennett, Hicklin, Pennell, Freeman, James Clarke, Carson, Reed, Wm. Smith, Burton, Fish, Barkley and Morris—18.

Both Reports of the Committee on Slavery were, therefore, laid on the table.

Bro. Reese offered a Resolution on the subject of Slavery, but afterwards asked and obtained leave to withdraw it.

Bro. Norris moved, That the Reports just laid on the table shall not again be taken up, and that the subject of Slavery shall not again be taken up in any form during this General Conference.

Bro. Jno. Clarke, Jr., inquired whether the Resolutions on the subject of Slavery in the Journals of the Annual Conferences, were to be approved or disapproved by this General Conference.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, 8 o'clock. Prayer by Bro. Reed.

Friday Morning, May 13.

Conference met, and after prayer by Bro. Lipscomb, proceeded to business.

The Minutes of yesterday's sessions were read.

Conference resumed the unfinished business of the last session.

Bro. Ragan moved, That the motion of Bro. Norris lie on the table. *Carried*.

The Resolution of Bro. Reese, offered on yesterday, was again introduced. It reads as follows:

"Resolved, That in the judgment of this

General Conference, the holding of slaves is not under all circumstances a sin against God; yet in our opinion, under some circumstances it is sinful, and in such cases should be discouraged by the Methodist Protestant Church. This General Conference does not feel authorized by the Constitution to legislate on the subject of Slavery; and by a solemn vote, we present to the Church our judgment, that the different Annual Conferences respectively should make their own regulations on this subject, so far as authorized by the Constitution."

After some debate, Bro. Webster moved the previous question, and the call was sustained.

Bro. Clarke called for the yeas and nays.

Yeas—Bros. Ragan, Burns, Brown, Collins, Whitfield, Norris, Waters, Webster, Lipscomb, Reese, Bordley, Stier, McCaine, Graves, Souder, Whetstone, Woodhouse, Naudain, Waugh, Light, Rusk, Crutchley and Bibb—23.

Nays—Bros. Shinn, John Clarke, Jr., Bassett, Witsil, Jacobs, Bennett, Hicklin, Allbright, Pennell, Freeman, Jas. Clarke, Carson, Reese, Wm. Smith, Burton, Whitaker, Rankin, Fish, Barkley and Morris—20.

So, the Resolution of Bro. Reese was adopted.

On motion of Bro. Lipscomb, the motion of Bro. Norris was renewed.

The previous question being called for, Bro. Jacobs and others demanded the ayes and nays upon Bro. Norris' motion, and the result was as follows:

Yeas—Whitfield, Allbright, Norris, Waters, Webster, Lipscomb, Reese, Bordley, McCaine, Graves, Souder, Woodhouse, Whitaker, Rankin, Naudain, Waugh, Light, Rusk, Crutchley and Bibb—20.

Nays—Bros. Shinn, Ragan, John Clarke, Burns, Brown, Bassett, Collins, Witsil, Jacobs, Bennett, Stier, Pennell, Carson, Whetstone, Reed, Wm. Smith, Burton, Fish, Barkley and Morris—20.

The Chair announced the motion of Bro. Norris as lost.

Bro. Norris, Chairman of the Literary

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Committee made a Report of the said Committee, which was, on motion, laid on the table.

On motion of Bro. Woodhouse, the Reports of the Committee on Memorials were again taken up.

Moved, by the same brother, That the Reports be indefinitely postponed.

The yeas and nays were called for, and the result was as follows:

Yeas—Ragan, Brown, Collins, Whitfield, Albright, Norris, Waters, Williams, Webster, Lipscomb, Reese, Bordley, Stier, McCaine, Graves, John Smith, Souder, Whetstone, Woodhouse, Whitaker, Rankin, Naudain, Waugh, Light, Rusk, Crutchley and Bibb—27.

Nays—Shinn, John Clarke, Bassett, Witsil, Jacobs, Bennett, Hicklin, Pennell, Freeman, James Clarke, Carson, Reed, W. Smith, Burton, Barkley and Morris—16.

So, the Reports of the Committee on Memorials respecting slavery were indefinitely postponed.

Bro. Stier, from the Executive Committee, presented a Report as follows:

"Your Committee beg leave to report, that the second paragraph in the 5th item, on the 45th page of the Discipline, is in our opinion at variance with the apostolic usage, and is productive of injurious results. Therefore,

Resolved, That it, with the words, 'except where otherwise provided for by the Discipline,' on page 61, item 1st, be stricken out of the Discipline.

A motion was made to adopt, but negatived.

Bro. Norris presented and read the following Report from the Literary Committee.

Report of the Literary Committee.

Your Committee beg leave to make the following Report on the matters submitted to them:

1. They have carefully examined the several documents referred to them from the Book Committee, consisting of their Report and accompanying papers. As far as your Committee can discover, the Book

Committee seem to have managed the business of the church entrusted to them, with great fidelity; and on the whole, the affairs of the Church Paper, and of the Book Concern, appear to have very considerably improved, the last four years, under their administration.

2. The old Book Company appear to have failed and suspended business; but nevertheless it appears to have made the church whole, for such monies as it received belonging to the church, by passing over to the Book Committee books of equal value to the funds used. The failed Book Company appear to have disposed of a very considerable amount of Church Scrip, issued by the Book Committee, say some \$9,800, which of course they will not be able to redeem when coming to maturity—for the redemption of which the Book Committee probably are legally holden; and which both they and the church must feel morally bound to see honored at maturity, which will be on July 1st, 1844. The Book Committee have no other security from the failed Book Company, than the stereotype plates of Clarke's Commentary and Mosheim's Church History, which in the present depressed condition of mercantile affairs, would bring but a small portion of the \$9,800 of Scrip issued.—Nevertheless, they are thought by the Book Committee to possess an intrinsic value even greater than the sum for which they are held—for particulars, your Committee refer the Conference to the Book Committee's Report, and the document marked D.†

3. Several plans have been proposed to your Committee in order to raise funds to redeem the outstanding Scrip, none of which appear to your Committee feasible. (See document C.) We therefore leave the projectors to bring them directly before the Conference in their own way.—From some provisions made by the last General Conference on one alternative, the Book Committee have obtained a charter of incorporation, which is herewith submitted with a recommendation that the Book Committee at the next session of the Maryland Legislature be in-

structed to endeavor to obtain the following additions to it,--as your Committee consider that the present charter does not sufficiently secure the interests of the Concern to the control of the church, and if the additions or alterations cannot be obtained, we think it will not be expedient after such fact is ascertained to make further attempts to build up a Concern on such a platform. The proposed alterations or additions follow, first, after said church in section 2d, "also pay over to the order of the said General Conference the profits of said business, to be divided between the Annual Conferences of the Methodist P. Church in proportion to the number of ministers under the stationing authority of said church, for the benefit of necessitous itinerant ministers, superannuated ministers, and the widows and orphans of deceased itinerant ministers." Also, add to the last section: Nor to prevent the General Conference at its sessions, from removing from this Board such of its members as they please, and putting others in their places, provided they release all former incumbents removed from legal liabilities they may have incurred by virtue of their office." Your Committee recommend no change in the existing mode of conducting the Book Concern.

4. They propose that the election of an Editor to serve for the next four years should be by ballot, as there seems to be several persons brought forward by their friends as candidates for that office, none of whom would your Committee assume the responsibility of putting in nomination. The paper seems to be doing well, though its circulation is much more limited than could be wished. For a change in its name and price, your Committee beg leave to refer the Conference to the Reports they have already submitted to your body, also to the Report on the publication of an edition of our Hymn Book in large type.

5. The salaries and sums paid the Agent, Editor, &c., seem to be as small as can in reason be asked. Your Committee are gratified in being able to speak well of the efficiency and faithfulness of Bro. Wm. L.

Richardson, Book Agent, although devoting but a portion of his time to this business, it is to be regretted that his entire services cannot be secured to the church.

6. Your Committee recommend that the prices of our Hymn Books be reduced, viz: common Hymn Books, from \$5 per dozen to \$4; the medium from \$9 per dozen to \$6; and the gilt and fancy bound from \$15 to \$10 per dozen.

7. Your Committee also recommend, that there be established a Depository of Books in the West, either at Cincinnati, Pittsburg, or some other convenient location.

8. No communication on the causes of the Rev. T. H. Stockton's resignation has been made to your Committee; therefore on that subject they do not report.

The above Report and papers your Committee beg leave respectively to submit to your body, and would ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subjects submitted to them.

THOS. F. NORRIS, Chair.

JOHN J. REED, Sec'y.

Bro. Collins moved, That the Report of the Literary Committee be the order of the day this afternoon. *Carried.*

Bro. Norris asked and obtained leave of absence for the rest of the session.

Bros. Bassett and McCaine asked and obtained leave of absence during part of the business hours to-morrow.

Adjourned with prayer by Bro. Stier.

Friday Afternoon.

Conference met, Bro. Waters in the Chair.

Opened with prayer by Bro. McCaine.

The roll was called, and 28 members found to be present.

The Minutes of the forenoon session were read, and after amendment approved.

The unfinished business of the morning was called up. Whereupon the first paragraph of the Report of the Literary Committee was read, considered and adopted.

The second and third paragraphs were

also adopted.

The following Resolution was proposed by Bro. Graves, and adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the plans proposed for the relief of the Book Committee, and to report as soon as practicable. Committee—Bros. Graves, Webster and Whetstone.

The following Resolution was presented by Bro. Bordley, and seconded by Bro. Whitfield.

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Conference, Bro. E. Yeates Reese, Editor of the "Methodist Protestant and Family Visitor," has conducted the editorial de-

partment of that paper to our entire satisfaction, and that we think him justly entitled to this unanimous expression of our gratification and approbation.

During the consideration of this Resolution, the Conference adjourned.

Saturday Morning, May 14.

The Conference met. Religious services by Bro. Lipscomb.

The roll was called, and in a few moments a quorum appeared.

The proceedings of the last session were read and approved.

A communication from the Agent of the American Tract Society was introduced, and after reading, was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Bros. Reese, Waters and Pennell.

It was moved, that we now proceed to appoint, by ballot, the place for holding the next session of the General Conference, and that the polls be kept open through the morning. Cincinnati was nominated by Bro. Bassett, and Lynchburg by Bro. Woodhouse.

Bro. Graves, from the Committee appointed to suggest measures to raise money for the redemption of the Loan authorized at the last General Conference made a Report, which after amendment, was adopted as follows:

"The Committee appointed by this General Conference to devise ways and means for the redemption of the Loan authorized by the General Conference,

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held at Pittsburg, 1838, beg leave respectfully to state their plan in their opinion, and enable the Book Committee in due time to liquidate the entire claim.

"They recommend—"

"1. That each Annual Conference raise a sum of money, not to exceed fifty cents for each member within the limits of its District.

"2. Transmit said amount, when raised, to the Book Committee, who shall forward free of risk and expense of transportation, to the respective Conferences, an equivalent in such books as may be directed at retail prices.

"3. Let the plan be published by the Book Committee officially in our Periodical, and at our request in our other Papers and its necessity and propriety urged upon our entire membership.

P. S. GRAVES, Chn."

The Resolution of Bro. Bordley of yesterday afternoon was called up, and laid on the table.

The Report of the Literary Committee was again called up.

The fourth paragraph was adopted.

The following Resolution, recommended in a previous Report, was also adopted:

Resolved, That the General Conference recommend to the Book Committee, if it be expedient, after the close of the present volume, to make the price of the Methodist Protestant and Family Visitor, two dollars per year, payable in advance, and two dollars and fifty cents, if not paid until the end of six months;—and that they be directed to strike from said paper the words "and Family Visitor."

Conference proceeded to elect by ballot an Editor for the church-paper.

And after the first balloting, it was announced that Bro. E. Y. Reese was duly elected.

Conference proceeded to appoint the place for holding the next session of the General Conference.

It was agreed, That the roll be called and that each member vote, *viva voce*, for the place where he wishes the next session to be held.

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And Cincinnati was selected by the following vote:

For Cincinnati—Bros. Shinn, Ragan, John Clarke, Burns, Brown, Bassett, Collins, Witsil, Bennet, Waters, Webster, Reese, Stier, Graves, John Smith, Souder, Carson, Whetstone, Wm. Smith, Light, Bibb, Fish and Morris—23.

For Lynchburg, Va.—Bros. Butler, Hicklin, Williams, Lipscomb, McCaine, Freeman, James Clarke, Woodhouse, Burton, Nau-dain, Waugh, Rask, Barkley—13.

Bro. Reese, from the Committee to communicate with the Agent of the American Tract Society, submitted a Report, which, after reading, was adopted as follows:

"Resolved 1. That the thanks of this Conference are due to the Agent for the respectful terms in which his communication is expressed.

"2. That the subject of the communication, viz: the dissemination of Religious Tracts in co-operation with the views stated by the Agent, be recommended to the ministers and members of our church within the limits of his Agency, (the States of Delaware and Maryland, and the District of Columbia,) for their consideration and support, and that the same co-operation be recommended to the respectful action of our churches in all other sections of the country.

"3. That a letter be addressed by this Conference, as they may direct, to the Rev. W. A. Halleck, Secretary of the American Tract Society, and to be left in the care of Dr. S. K. Jennings, communicating to him the Resolutions of this body on the subject.

J. S. REESE, Chn."

On motion, the Secretary was directed to address the letter to Mr. Halleck.

The Resolutions offered by Bro. Graves were now called up, and adopted as follows:

Resolved 1. That a biographical Sketch of each of our deceased ministers and preachers be drawn up and printed in a book; as also the name of each minister and preacher, and the time of his reception into our church.

2. That to carry the above Resolution

into effect, the several Annual Conferencea be requested to furnish, as soon as possible, the names and biographical sketches of their ministers and preachers.

3. That when such biographical sketches are thus furnished by the Conferences, the Book Committee shall be authorized to revise, and make such alterations as to the style as may be necessary.

The following Report from the Literary Committee was then called up and adopted.—

“Having had under mature consideration, the request of the Boston District for the publication of an edition of the Hymn Book, printed in large type, your Committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the subjoined Resolution.

“*Resolved*, That this General Conference does hereby recommend to the Book Committee to publish an edition of the Hymn Book of duodecimo size, and in Small Pica type.”

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was then taken up.

On motion of Bro. Whitfield, the name of Bro. Taylor, of Virginia, was placed on the Committee.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Webster.

Saturday Afternoon.

Religious services by Dr. Bennett

The roll was called. A quorum appeared.

The proceedings of the morning were read and approved.

Dr. Bennett presented a Protest to the Conference against its action on the subject of Slavery.

The Protest was temporarily withdrawn.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was then adopted. Committee—S. K. Jennings, Dr. Waters, J. R. Williams, Benj. Richardson, B. H. Richardson, and J. Clark, of Baltimore, and T. Taylor, of Virginia.

The Report of the Committee on Boundaries was then taken up and adopted as follows:

1. We recommend to the General Conference to enlarge the Pennsylvania District as follows: Beginning at the juncture of

the Lehigh and Delaware; thence by a direct line to Harrisburg, (including that city;) thence by the Susquehanna to the mouth of the Juniatta; thence up the Juniatta to the county line of Mifflin and Huntingdon counties; thence by a straight line due North to Alleghany county, N. Y., so far as to embrace Broome county by a line due East; thence by the North-East and East lines of Broome county to the Delaware river; thence by the Delaware river to the place of beginning.

2. We think it inexpedient to recommend the change in the bounds of the Ohio District, requested by the letter of Bro. D. C. Carson (the boundary of the Ohio District remains as before, save that Michigan is taken off.)

3. The Vermont District to begin at the South-East corner of the State of Vermont; thence West to Lansingburg on the North river, (leaving Lansingburg in the New York District;) thence westerly to the South-West corner of Montgomery; thence North along the West boundary of Montgomery and Fulton counties; thence from the North-West corner of Fulton county easterly opposite the town of Athol; thence along the western boundaries of Athol and Johnsburg, as far North as the South line of Elizabethtown; thence easterly along the South line of Elizabethtown to Lake Champlain, thence down the lake to Canada line; thence East to the near corner of New Hampshire, and thence to the place of beginning.

On motion, it was *Resolved*, That the eastern boundary of the Champlain District shall correspond with the western line of Vermont District.

The Report of the Boundary Committee was then amended thus: [These amendments have been incorporated with the Report as printed.]

"Item 4. After Alabama, the words, *up to Tennessee river.*

"5. Add, and so much of Alabama as is North of the Tennessee river.

"6. Add, That Texas be a Mission under the direction of the Mississippi Conference.

A communication from Bro. J. T. Pratt,

relating to the Michigan District was read.

Moved, by Bro. Clarke, That the La-
porte Mission of Indiana be connected
with the Michigan District. *Carried*.

Michigan was then organized as a Dis-
trict of this General Conference.

The Report of the Committee on the
appeal of W. W. Wallace and others of
the New York Conference, was introduc-
ed and read by Bro. John Clarke, and on
motion, laid on the table till Monday
morning.

Bro. Bennett, on behalf of himself and
others, introduced and read a Protest,
which was ordered to be entered in the
journals, and is as follows:

"Whereas, the General Conference of
the Methodist Protestant Church, held in
the City of Pittsburg, May, 1838, having
had the subject of Slavery under consid-
eration, by a Resolution left it with the
Annual Conferences, and the people in
their primary assemblies, that their views
and wishes might be ascertained so as to
enable the succeeding General Confer-
ence to act upon the subject advisedly,
thereby giving implied assurance, that
when these wishes should be made known,
the Conference would take action accord-
ingly. And whereas, nine Annual Con-
ferences, embracing more than one half of
its constituency, have instructed their rep-
resentatives to use their influence in this
dy, to obtain efficient action against the
moral evil of Slavery, as it exists in the
church, and many official and private
members of the church have memorial-
ized the General Conference in view of
the same object, thereby expressing their
views and wishes, in strong and unequiv-
ocal terms, and have pressed upon this bo-
dy the necessity of immediate and de-
cisive action on the subject of Slavery:—
And whereas, this General Conference has
refused to comply with the wishes thus
expressed, of the Memorialists, and of
those Annual Conferences, and to redeem
its implied promise, and has by its vote
declared as its judgment that Slavery is
not a sin in itself: And whereas, this de-
cision is contrary to the common sense of
mankind, and in opposition to the princi-

ples of our holy religion: Therefore we, the undersigned members of this General Conference, in the fear of God, and with due respect to the views and feelings of our brethren who differ from us, respectfully enter our solemn Protest against such decision, and ask that this our Protest, may be entered upon the Journals of this Conference.

H. P. BENNETT

LEWIS L. FISH

JOHN CLARKE

JOHN BURTON,

TH. FREEMAN,

T. K. WITSIL,

JAMES CLARKE,

WM. SMITH,

D. C. CARSON,

A. PENNELL,

A. H. BASSETT,

TH. BARKLEY,

L. B. MORRIS,

E. JACOBS,

JOHN J. REED,

TH. HICKLIN.

Bro. Collins moved to enter it on the Journal, expressing at the same time no opinion thereby on the contents of said paper.

Bro. Bennett then introduced another Protest in behalf of himself and others. It was moved by Bro. Collins, that it be received as the former. Conference deferred action until Monday.

Bros. John and James Clarke requested leave of absence for the rest of the session. Bro. Fish asked a similar favor.—Granted.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Reese.

Monday Morning, May 16.

The Conference met. Religious services.

The roll was called. A quorum soon appeared.

The Minutes of Saturday afternoon were read and approved.

Conference proceeded to consider the Report of the Committee on the appeal of W. W. Wallace and others of the N. Y. Conference.

Moved, by Bro. Webster, That it be adopted.

Moved, by Bro. Collins, That it be laid on the table, in view of introducing a substitute. *Withdrawn.*

Bro. Shinn called for a division of the Report. *Agreed to.*

Bro. Lipscomb moved to amend the first Resolution by striking out the last clause. *Carried.*

The Resolution was then adopted.

The second Resolution was read and adopted.

Report of the Committee as amended and passed:

"The Committee to whom was referred the appeal of Bros. W. W. Wallace, J. L. Ambler and J. Covell, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to report as follows.

"1. They find nothing in the action of the New York Conference in the case complained of, inconsistent with the Rules of the Constitution and Discipline of the Church.

"2. This General Conference is of opinion that the complainants are members of the New York Annual Conference until transferred by its act to the unstationed list, or otherwise disposed of by said Conference.

J. CLARKE,

G. BROWN,

D. C. CARSON.

The following Resolution was then presented by Bro. Lipscomb and adopted:

Resolved That the communication from Bro. Wallace and others was not received, and has not been acted on as an appeal, but simply as a document setting forth certain grievances.

Bro. McCaine made a request for a copy of the Memorial from the Indiana Conference, which was arrested in its reading.

Bro. Reese moved, that Bro. Hicklin have leave to withdraw said Memorial.—*Adopted.*

The second Protest of Bro. Bennett and others, then came up before the Conference.

The Resolution of Bro. Collins recurring, it was withdrawn, and on motion of Bro. Webster, the said Protest was recorded on the Journal.

The following is the Protest:

"Whereas, this General Conference, by calling the previous question on Bro. Reese's Resolution, on the subject of slavery, before its merits had been discussed, viz: whether Slavery be an evil in itself, thereby preventing brethren from presenting their views on the main points embraced in the said Resolution, by which, perhaps, the vote was different from what it would otherwise have been, as several brethren had expressed their desire to speak, among whom was our revered President: Therefore we, the undersigned, in view of the rights of our constituents, of our duty to God, ourselves, and to mankind, feel imperiously called upon to enter our solemn Protest against such a course, as uncourteous and arbitrary.

H. P. BENNETT,
JNO. CLARKE,
JNO. BURTON,
D. C. CARSON,
WM. SMITH,
JAS. CLARKE.

Pro. Webster offered the annexed Protest in opposition to the second Protest.— It was received and entered.

The undersigned hereby protest against the statement in the second Protest of Bro. H. P. Bennett and others, that the question, "Whether Slavery be an evil in itself?" has not been discussed on the floor of this General Conference.

A. WEBSTER,
A. S. NAUDAIN,
W. C. LIPSCOMB,
J. S. REESE,
H. B. WOODHOUSE,
A. WAUGH,
P. S. GRAVES,
A. MCCAINE,
F. WATERS,
F. STIER,
J. G. WHITFIELD.

The following was offered by Bro. Ragan:

"Whereas, the General Conference has re-elected the former Editor of the Methodist Protestant and Family Visitor, and thereby approved of the manner in which he discharged the duties of Editor the

past four years; therefore, *Resolved*, That the General Conference instruct the Book Committee to allow the Editor, Bro. E. Y. Reese, — hundred dollars for his services.

Z. RAGAN.

J. BURNS."

It was moved to fill the blank with \$400.

Bro. Graves moved to strike out the words, "fix his compensation," from the 133d page of the Discipline.

Bro. Graves then moved to add, "if not otherwise directed by the General Conference," to the second clause—third paragraph of page 133.

Moved, That the amendment of Bro. Graves and all other business appertaining thereto, be laid on the table. *Carried*.

The following Resolution was then offered by Bro. Whetstone, and passed by a rising vote:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Conference be and are hereby tendered to our brethren and the citizens of Baltimore for their hospitality and kindness to the members of this Conference.

Bro. Brown from the Executive Committee offered the following, which was adopted, and ordered to be entered on page 60.

An Annual Conference may leave a minister without an appointment, at his own request, the ensuing year. When any minister is so left, he shall be entitled to a seat in the Quarterly Conference, where he may reside, but shall be ultimately responsible to the Annual Conference.

On motion of Bro. Bassett, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Book Committee, if they deem it practicable, to furnish hereafter the Book of Discipline at the price of 25 cents the single copy.

On motion of Bro. Lipscomb, *Resolved*, That Bros. A. Webster, F. Waters and C. W. Ridgely be a Committee to revise and correct the Discipline, agreeably to the amendments of this body, for publication.

On motion of Bro. Graves, *Resolved*, That the Minutes be published in the church-paper under the direction of the Book Committee.

Moved, That the Journal and all papers belonging to this General Conference be deposited with the Book Committee for safe keeping. *Carried.*

After prayer by Bro. Shinn the General Conference finally adjourned.

A. A. LIPSCOMB, Secretary,

In the stead of J. J. Reed.

Note—The other Secretary (Bro. Bassett) in the notes of the above session has an entry, stating that Bro. Ragan offered a Resolution, which was adopted. I am unable to find it among the proceedings—suppose it to have been lost in the confusion of adjournment.

A. A. L.